

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
December 4, 2009  
10:00 a.m.**

**Call to Order**

Michael O. Smith, Chair, called the meeting of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees to order at 10:08 a.m., on Friday, December 4, 2009, at the Library of Michigan.

**Attendance**

Members Present: B. Denise Bartlett, Barb Bonge (alternate for Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly), Elaine Logan, Charles Myers, Gail Parsons, Nancy Robertson, Nancy Skowronski, Michael Smith

Members Absent: Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, Jill Costello (for Senator Tom George), Representative Shanelle Jackson, Francis "Bus" Spaniola, Representative Jim Stamas

Staff Present: Elaine Harrison, Janet Laverty, Sheryl Mase, Lori Poznanski-Mason (recording secretary)

Visitors: Legislative Aide Danielle Chapin from Representative Shanelle Jackson's office, Randy Dykhuis, Jim Seidl, Tim Staal, Carol Wolenberg

**Welcome and  
Introductions**

Mike Smith welcomed Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent of the Michigan Department of Education, to the Board meeting. Board members introduced themselves. Mike congratulated Elaine Logan and Denise Bartlett on their reappointment to the Library of Michigan (LM) Board.

**Agenda**

CHUCK MYERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED.

**Minutes of  
September 25, 2009  
Meeting**

THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 MEETING WERE APPROVED UPON MOTION BY NANCY SKOWRONSKI.

**Board Reports  
Board Chair's**

Mike Smith presented the Board Chair report. Mike Smith and Elaine Logan have both been asked to apply to participate on the Michigan Center for Innovation and Reinvention (MCIR) Board. Nancy Skowronski mentioned that she has been nominated by MLA to be on the Board. No appointments have been made yet to the MCIR Board.

**Board Members'  
Reports**

Board members presented their reports.

**Legislator Updates**

There were no legislator updates.

**Partnership**

**Reports**

**Cooperatives**

Jim Seidl, President of the Library Cooperative Director's Association presented the Cooperatives report.

**MLA**

Gail Parsons presented the MLA report.

**MLC**

Randy Dykhuis presented the MLC report.

**MAME**

Tim Staal presented the Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) report.

**State Librarian's  
Report**

Randy Riley spoke on the 2010 list of Michigan Notable books. A press release is expected to be issued within the next week. LM received a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council (MHC) for the Michigan Notable Books program. Randy Riley wrote the grant. One change related to the author tour this year is that libraries will be given stipends for author tours, instead of authors being paid by the Library of Michigan Foundation.

Nancy reported that she meets regularly with Deputy Superintendent Carol Wolenberg at MDE. There are still a lot of details to be worked out as LM transitions to MDE.

A spending plan is in place for the current fiscal year. The Library's budget was cut 10% this year. Collections and supplies will account for about 15% of the budget, and salaries and benefits account for the rest. In the past, about 33% of the budget was used for collections and supplies. Nancy has been asked to submit a budget proposal for fiscal year 2010-2011 with a 20% cut to the current budget.

The Foundation Board met and rewrote their charter as a 501c3 to enable them to support programs that were part of the Library of Michigan as of September 30, 2009. The Foundation will also continue to support current programs and services of the Library of Michigan and has committed to spending at the previous level.

The LM Foundation continues to operate without an executive director. Without an executive director, the Foundation has not been able to do any fundraising. Library of Michigan staff have been contacting previous sponsors of programs, such as Michigan Notable Books and Michigan Reads!. It was reported that Foundation investments have been rebounding.

Nancy reported that Stair Library won the State Librarian's Excellence Award this year and West Bloomfield Public Library and Garden City High School Media Resources Center won Citations of Excellence. Nancy mentioned how pleased she was to have school libraries apply for the State Librarian's Excellence Award. She would like to encourage academic libraries to apply as well. MDE is currently working on a press release about the winners of this year's award.

In the past, a corporate sponsor funded the State Librarian's Excellence Award. This year librarians funded the awards. Roger and June Mendel funded the main award, and Nancy Robertson and Mike Smith funded the Citations of Excellence. Roger and June Mendel, Elaine Logan, and Denise Bartlett have indicated their support for the awards next year. West Bloomfield Public Library returned their prize money in order to help fund the awards as well.

In addition to the Michigan Humanities Council grant, Cooley Law School, ProQuest, and the National Archives Publishing Company have agreed to sponsor the Michigan Notable Books program this year. Meijer is unable to pledge support for this year. LM is waiting to hear from other sponsors.

Nancy invited the Board to attend the Law Library's open house on December 10 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Sheryl Mase gave an update on Broadband and ARRA initiatives. The website is [www.michigan.gov/broadband](http://www.michigan.gov/broadband).

Sheryl mentioned that EPIC-MRA is performing a study on MeL. A survey has been sent to library staff and the general public. The results of this study will be used to plan for the future of MeL.

The SKILLS act was recently re-introduced at the federal legislative level.

**Board Discussion  
Items**

The Board agreed to table the review of the Bylaws until the next Board meeting.

**Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**New Business**

**Nomination  
and Election  
of Officers**

Gail, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, recommended Mike Smith for Chair and Gail Parsons as Vice-Chair. No other nominations were presented. ELAINE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE SLATE OF OFFICERS. THE MOTION PASSED.

Mike said he was pleased to continue as Board Chair and thanked the Board for their support.

**Resolution**

THE BOARD PASSED A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MARK HOFFMAN. CHUCK MYERS MOVED THE MOTION.

**Board Talking  
Points**

With the state's current economic situation, the members discussed what the Board can do to help libraries and the Library of Michigan. Suggestions included:

Encourage participation and support in partner organizations.  
Determine ways to encourage and sponsor joint programming among different library types and organizations.

Look at ways of collaboration, such as between school and public libraries. Nancy said when looking at models involving school and public library collaboration, it is important to keep in mind that public libraries do not link to curriculum as well as school libraries.

Think proactively about current models of organizations.

Develop talking points about MeL.

Reimagine libraries. Look at other funding models for MeL and for libraries. Gail noted this is on the list of MLA priorities for future discussion. It was noted that Michigan is a leader nationally because of MeL. If funding for MeL disappears, local services and local collections will be threatened.

**2010 Meeting  
Dates**

The Library of Michigan Board will meet on the following dates in 2010:

February 5

April 30

September 24

December 3

All meetings will be held in the 5th floor Board Room from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Tentative items for the next meeting:

Rollout of school library benchmarks and revised public library benchmarks.

Review of Bylaws.

Board members to bring resources in order to develop talking points about MeL.

Library of Michigan Foundation finance report.

**Adjournment**

NANCY SKOWRONSKI MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:09 P.M.

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Michael O. Smith, Chair

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Nancy R. Robertson, State Librarian